

華埠基金  
VANCOUVER  
CHINATOWN  
FOUNDATION

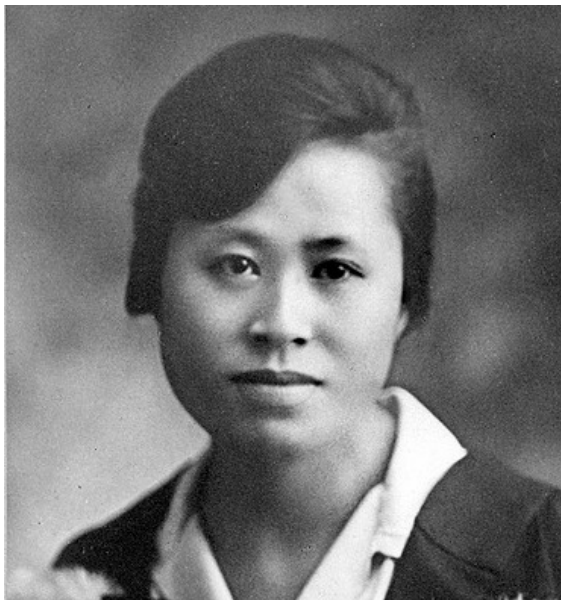
## HAPPY INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

### 6 CANADIAN WOMEN YOU NEED TO KNOW

Happy International Women's Day! Here are six women who broke barriers and achieved many firsts—not only for the Chinese Canadian community and for women—but for all of Canada.

There are more incredible stories to be celebrated beyond this email, and we invite you to learn more at the Robert H. N. Ho Living Legacy Project at the Chinatown Storytelling Centre, an initiative of the Vancouver Chinatown Foundation.

The Vancouver Chinatown Foundation is proud to be a women-led registered charity, and we are grateful to continue the legacy of those who came before us. We celebrate their astounding achievements, and we honour them for who they are: women who believed in creating better futures for themselves, their families, and their communities.



#### **VICTORIA CHUNG**

##### **First Asian Canadian to earn a medical degree in Canada**

In 1922, the University of Toronto graduated its first Chinese Canadian physician. Born in Victoria, BC, Dr. Chung decided to bring Western medical care to China after her residency at Toronto General. She would not have been able to practice in BC, her home province, because of her race. Practicing for over 40 years in Guangdong, Dr. Chung is the only Canadian missionary to have worked throughout the second Sino-Japanese War, World War II, and the Cultural Revolution.



## **ADRIENNE CLARKSON**

### **From Refugee to Journalist to Governor General**

Clarkson arrived on a Red Cross ship with her family as a refugee from Hong Kong. In 1965, she was the first visible minority to host a national TV show. Clarkson became the Agent-General for Ontario in France, and she returned to the CBC as the executive producer and host of "Adrienne Clarkson Presents". In 2005, Clarkson was named Governor General of Canada, the second woman and first visible minority appointed to this honour. After her tenure at Rideau Hall, Clarkson co-founded the Institute for Canadian Citizenship.



## **MAGGIE IP**

### **Celebrating 50 years of S.U.C.C.E.S.S.**

Ip arrived in Canada to complete a Masters in Education in Ottawa, where she struggled to integrate. She relocated to Vancouver in the 1960s and found the resettlement support not accessible to a new class of immigrants arriving from Asia. Ip and 15 other volunteers decided to form S.U.C.C.E.S.S in 1973 with Ip as the founding chair. S.U.C.C.E.S.S. is now one of the largest, independent immigrant assistance organizations in Canada and is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year.



## **JEAN LEE**

### **Only woman of Chinese descent to enlist in the Royal Canadian Air Force during WWII**

Jean Lee is a Canadian veteran of World War II, the only woman of Chinese descent to serve in the Royal Canadian Air Force. She took basic training in Toronto and served mainly in Rockcliffe, Ontario until the end of the war. On February 19, 1947, Jean Lee joined six other veterans to become the first ever Chinese Canadians to receive their Canadian Citizenship Certificates.

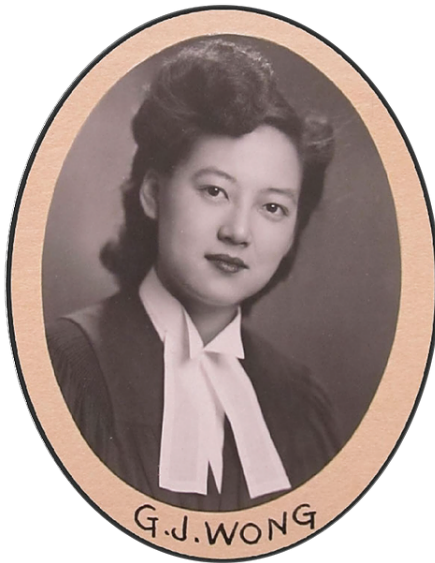
## **JEAN LUMB**

### **First Chinese Canadian woman to be awarded the Order of Canada**

Born in Nanaimo, BC, Lumb moved to Toronto to work at 16 and opened a greengrocers at 18. Within 2 years, she earned enough to bring her family from BC. Lumb lost her citizenship status when she married her Chinese-born husband. As



an activist and community leader, she was pivotal in changing Canada's anti-Chinese immigration laws and saving Toronto's First Chinatown. In 1976, she became the first Chinese Canadian woman and first restaurateur to receive the Order of Canada.



## GRETTA WONG GRANT

### First Chinese Canadian Female Lawyer

When London, Ontario-born Gretta Wong was called to the bar in 1946, the significance of becoming the first Chinese Canadian female lawyer did not dawn on her. Wong articulated at a prestigious law firm in Toronto and worked in London's first legal aid office where she pushed to make services more accessible to clients, many of whom were First Nations and unfamiliar with the law. In 1969, Wong was appointed Queen's Counsel.

Photo credits: Adrienne Clarkson - Courtesy of Adrienne Clarkson; Victoria Chung - UBC Chung Collection; Maggie Ip - Courtesy of Maggie Ip; Jean Lumb - Portrait by Cavouk; Jean Lee - Courtesy of Chinese Canadian Military Museum; Gretta Wong Grant - Archives of the Law Society of Ontario.

## Make a difference today in the heart of Vancouver's Chinatown

[Donate](#)

Learn more about Vancouver Chinatown Foundation's projects and how you can get involved.



Charitable Registration Number: 80789 5883 RR0001

Copyright © 2023 Vancouver Chinatown Foundation, All rights reserved.

**Our mailing address is:**

300-127 E Pender Street, British Columbia, Canada, V6A 1T6

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [unsubscribe from this list](#).